

RACE MEET OPENS TODAY

Summer Gathering of the Light Harness Cracks at Omaha.

PROSPECTS GOOD FOR SPLENDID SPORT

Many Fine Horses Here and the Track in the Highest Possible Condition and Everybody Concerned Looking for Records.

Fast and speedy trotters and pacers will be the magnet that will attract everybody who has any sporting blood in his or her veins during the remainder of this week. This afternoon at 2 o'clock the great summer meeting of the Omaha Fair and Sport association will commence on the new fair grounds track, and will continue during the remainder of the week. It will be the "warmest ever" light harness meet held in the city.

Some of the fastest miles ever paced or trotted will be witnessed during the meet. The track is in the finest sort of shape—fast, smooth as a table and springy. The entries include some of the best known and best horses in the western part of the country and a big contingent from the east, which also must be fast or they never would have been sent to a point as far west as this. This is a combination that makes it a sure proposition that track records and perhaps other records will be smashed into smithereens. In the racing that has been held at Denver lately, ending with Saturday, a lot of the marks of the entries were lowered, but the horsemen from the Colorado city are unanimous in saying that the Omaha track is faster than the one there. The horses from Colorado reached the city yesterday in a special train.

It is believed that the car service to the grounds will be the best it has ever been. The motor trains leave the loop at Fontenelle at Howard streets every ten minutes throughout the races, and the added equipment that has been put at the power houses is a warrant that there will be no breakdown. The admission price to the grounds will be 50 cents for everything, including grand stand, infield and quarter stretch.

Today is to be the banner day of the meeting and is to be made a sort of "Derby day." There is certain to be a big display of drags and other vehicles in the infield and there is every promise that there will be a big crowd in the grand stand. There will be a band on hand to render a fine program and there will be a special attraction in addition to the races in the presence of Happy Jack, an original guideless wonder, who goes without driving or goading and has made a mile in 29 under those conditions.

Another special attraction is likely to be The Merchant, who starts in one of the events today. He comes pretty nearly being the fastest 2-year-old in the country, judging from his performances this year and last. He is a handsome colt out of the Conqueror and is one of Billy Paxton's string. The program of racing for this afternoon is as follows:

2-year-old trot, purse, \$500, five entries. 3-year-old pace, purse, \$500, ten entries.

23½-class trot, purse, \$500, eleven entries. In the latter two events the race will be three out of five heats and in the 2-year-old it will be two out of three.

Western Horses and Horsemen Here.

Dick Tilden of Denver has his trotter, Electric Light, 23½; pacer, Albatross, 22½; trotter, Respond, 22½; Plenty, a 2-year-old pacer, and Ester S., a green trotter.

Gibl Judah of Santa Anna is running Klamath, 23½, the great California trotter, and the California delegation is ready to walk home whenever he is not in on the winning.

Stamboulette, 23½; Wayland, 22½; and Elbert, 23½, are a trio of California horses that will make a hot run for the purse.

Judge Parker of Colorado Springs has a very fast green pacer.

John A. McKernan, owned by William Cell of California, is said to be pretty nearly invincible in the 3-year-old trotting division.

As a 2-year-old he made a mark of 22½, and in the 3-year-old division, Wellington Belle, a fast pacer made with a record of 23½.

To the 3-year-old, Frank Madison, owned by James Ward of California.

Kinloch Allmond and Shecam are a pair of the pacers Aelie, 22½, and E. S., 23½, and the trotter, Lady Beaumont, 23½.

"Duck" Beurp, an old-time Nebraska reindeer, has a fast green trotter in Trainer Davis, brought the trotter, Arie, 22½, from El Paso, Tex.

C. Ripple Larnes of Kansas has a green pacer, Fanny V., and a 3-year-old trotter named.

George J. Common of San Francisco, a former Omaha boy, will have charge of the action pool boy.

M. H. Smith, the official cather and advance agent for the "bookies" was in the city yesterday seeking quarters for the bookmakers who will be in the city.

Another set of western horsemen is the paper Searchlight, 23½, who have worked miles in 23½ and was the 3-year-old champion of the Pacific coast last year.

He is followed by T. M. Keeler, Senator Cal, who also has with him Ananda, 23½; Diane, 23½, and Chatawa, 21½, who made the record at Denver last week.

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